

Bowles Is Reported on the Way Out

Undersecretary of State Chester A. Bowles was reported today to be slated for a top ambassadorial post in the first major shift among Kennedy Administration officials.

It also was understood that Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, eventually will be replaced, but no immediate consideration is being given to this move.

CONGRESS

State Department officials said they knew nothing of the reported Bowles shift. However, reliable congressional sources said the Administration was moving toward such a decision.

Mr. Bowles had no appointment scheduled with President Kennedy today. White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger, questioned about the Bowles report, said in Hyannis Port, last night, "I don't know anything about it."

The congressional sources said McGeorge Bundy, special presidential assistant for Na-

tional Security Affairs, probably would replace Mr. Bowles in the No. 2 State Department post.

It was learned that Mr. Bowles was being urged to consider the job of roving ambassador, a post now held by W. Averill Harriman, or as an alternative, ambassador to Chile. Mr. Harriman, 70, is said to want to concentrate on Soviet affairs.

Sources said the aim of the change would be to improve policy planning in the State Department. There have been clear signs that Mr. Bowles, who gave up a seat in Con-

gress to advise Mr. Kennedy during the presidential campaign, has been kept out of top policy councils.

This insulation has puzzled outside observers and apparently has proved frustrating to Mr. Bowles.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Bowles, a former governor of Connecticut, served as Ambassador to India under President Truman and was among those considered by Mr. Kennedy for Secretary of State before Dean Rusk was selected.

But unlike some less-known undersecretaries in the past, Mr. Bowles apparently has been given limited departmental authority despite his congressional background, his appearances on Capitol Hill have been limited.

Some of Mr. Bowles' friends believe he is being made the administration "whipping boy" for State Department difficulties. For this reason, it was believed, any shift in assignment would be handled "diplomatically."

Mr. Bowles has been concentrating on trying to improve the performance of U. S. Foreign Service Personnel abroad. Some sources

said this might be at the root of the sidetracking. Mr. Bowles appears to have experienced in the department.

Ambassadors have been instructed by the undersecretary to take more of a people-to-people approach—the type of contact which made Mr. Bowles popular in India—and to see that overseas missions are better coordinated.

Mr. Bowles was said to have required periodic reports from ambassadors on how this program is being carried out, and has a series of regional ambassadorial conferences scheduled.